



NRC NEWS

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS -- REGION I**

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NRC TO DISCUSS ANNUAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT OF CALVERT CLIFFS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with representatives of Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Inc., on Monday, March 31, to discuss the results of the agency's annual assessment of safety performance at the Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant. The twin-reactor facility, which is owned by Constellation Generation Group, LLC, is located in Lusby, Md.

The meeting, which will be open to the public for observation, is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Select Solomons, 155 Holiday Drive in Solomons, Md. Before the session is adjourned, NRC staff will be available to answer questions from the public on the safety performance of the Calvert Cliffs plant, as well as the role of the NRC in ensuring safe plant operation.

The performance period to be discussed is January 1 to December 31, 2002. In addition, NRC staff will provide an overview of how the agency's Reactor Oversight Process works.

A letter sent from the NRC Region I Office to plant officials addresses the performance of the facility during the period and will serve as the basis for the meeting discussion. It is available on the NRC web site at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/calv_2002q4.pdf

"Overall, Calvert Cliffs operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives," the letter states. However, there were two inspection findings of low to moderate safety significance ("white") identified last year that apply to both Calvert Cliffs Units 1 and 2. One involved the improper preparation of a package of radioactive materials for shipping, resulting in Department of Transportation external radiation dose rate limits being exceeded. A supplemental inspection last December found that sufficient actions had been taken to prevent a recurrence. The other finding stemmed from the inability to operate emergency sirens in Calvert County in a timely manner for 84 days. A second supplemental inspection determined that the problem had been successfully addressed.

In addition, the letter notes: "As you are aware, since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the NRC has issued several Orders and threat advisories to enhance security capabilities and improve guard force readiness. We have conducted inspections to review your implementation of

these requirements and have monitored your actions in response to changing threat conditions. For calendar year 2003, we plan to continue these inspections, conduct portions of the security baseline inspection program, as well as perform additional inspections to evaluate your compliance with new requirements that may be ordered. "

Current performance information for Calvert Cliffs Unit 1 is available on the NRC web site at:
http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/CALV1/calv1_chart.html

Current performance information for Calvert Cliffs Unit 2 is available on the NRC web site at:
http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/CALV2/calv2_chart.html

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